

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-06 RSC-01 ISO-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /087 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP-DKTHOMPSON:LCW

APPROVED BY IO-AMB BLAKE

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 247512

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, UR

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO SOVIET PEACEKEEPING APPROACH

REF: USUN 4756

1. DEPT CONTINUES TO HAVE SERIOUS RESERVATIONS ABOUT "VETO BY CHALLENGE" CONCEPT, PARTICULARLY IN CONTEXT OF POST-LAUNC DECISIONS BY SYG. WE DO NOT WANT PRINCIPLE ENSHRINED THAT WOULD COMPEL CONDUCT OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS TO HALT UPON EXPRESSED OBJECTION OF SINGLE SC PERMANENT MEMBER. WE BELIEVE PROVISION FOR FREQUENT REVIEW OF SYG'S ACTIONS WOULD ADEQUATELY SERVE PURPOSE OF ASSURING RESPONSIVENESS TO SC AUTHORITY.

2. WE NEVERTHELESS WELCOME SOVIET INTEREST (ASSUMING OVINNIKOV'S "UNINSTRUCTED" APPROACH REFLECTS MORE THAN PERSONAL INTEREST) IN RESUMING BILATERAL PEACEKEEPING DISCUSSIONS AND DO NOT WANT TO LET OPPORTUNITY PASS BY.

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USUN MAY, THEREFORE, INFORM OVINNIKOV THAT WE PREPARED

TO EXPLORE "VETO BY CHALLENGE" CONCEPT AS ONE POSSIBLE WAY OF DEALING WITH QUESTION OF RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF SC AND SYG AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP. OUR WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS THE CONCEPT DOES NOT MEAN WE AT ALL CONVINCED IT NECESSARILY PROPER OR MOST PROMISING DIRECTION FOR "NEXT STEP" OF NEGOTIATIONS; RATHER, WE WOULD CONSIDER IT USEFUL TO EXAMINE DIFFICULTIES AND SEEK CLARIFICATION.

WE WOULD ALSO EXPECT AS CONDITION FOR UNDERTAKING SUCH TALKS THAT DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO INCLUDE ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS FOR RESOLVING THE CENTRAL PROBLEMS THAT SEPARATE US, E.G., DEGREE OF SC CONTROL OVER POST-LAUNCH OPERATIONS. WE PARTICULARLY WANT TO DISCUSS WITH SOVIETS "PRELIMINARY US OBSERVATIONS ON RESUMPTION OF DISCUSSIONS REGARDING GUIDELINES ON PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS AUTHORIZED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL," THOUGHTS WHICH WE GAVE THE SOVIETS LAST MARCH AND TO WHICH THEY HAVE NOT YET SUBSTANTIVELY RESPONDED. MAW

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